and others who are drawn by the peace and mystery of the area. Canyon for mountain bikers, rock climbers, hikers, nature watchers Today, the Bureau of Land Management manages Penitente

CBE CB 39E Alamosa Monte Vista (160) a Del Norte La Garita Penitente Canyon Lookout Villa Grove To La Garita neul nez ob bizalel Penitente Canyon

Penitentes, who worshipped in the vicinity years ago. area was named after the religious brotherhood Los Hermanos carved into the rocks along the Penitente Canyon Loop Trail. The haul wood from the mountains – you can still see the wagon ruts added to the rich history here. Hispanic settlers used oxcarts to prehistoric groups to Utes and Jicarilla Apaches, people have Humans have visited this area for thousands of years. From

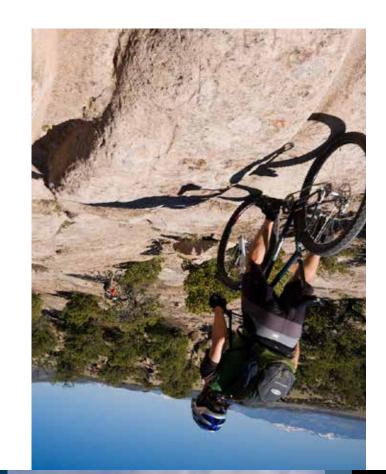
Map not to scale. All Terrain Vehicle Trail Dirt Bike Trail Four Wheel Drive Trail Restroom Mt. Biking Trail Horse Trail Hiking Trail Campground a Parking Drinking Water County Road 🐿 🖈 🕅 📤 🚵 bsoA b9vsqnU ™itches Canyon M ™ Wild Horse Loop Mark West Rock Garden 🚵 📩 💇 Wagon Tracks 🚻 ■ Manage Ma Rock Garden 🚵 🚵 🂇 Rock Garden Connector 🚻 Rock Drops 🕍 📩 🖭 Prospect 🕍 📩 🍱 Penitente Canyon/Blue Sky 🕍 🏝 Penitente Canyon Loop 💹 Lunch Gut 🌃 🛣 Lookout 🌃 🛣 🂇 🐿 🚵 🗱 etinaə bə 🔨 📆 🕅 ellinsoil 🔨 🚻 neul ne2 əb sisəlpl ■ Manual Ma Capulin Loop 🚵 📩 😰 Blue Sky Loop 🕅 🚅 😰

Trail System

forms the canyon walls.

Penitente. Fish Canyon tuff, the rock blown out by the explosion, is hard to find, but evidence of its existence is all around you at miles wide and 47 miles long. The outline of this giant caldera apart and formed the La Garita Caldera. This oblong void is 22 the largest volcanic eruption ever documented blew the country fascinating history and geology. Twenty-seven million years ago, While in the area, you'll ride through some of the country's most

pedals to technical boulder jumping. system offers seventeen miles of rides for all levels, from easy rock canyons and towering boulders. A newly reworked trail has many trails for mountain bikers to enjoy among twisty The Penitente Canyon Special Recreation Management Area



PENITENTE CANYON

RULES OF THE TRAIL

While enjoying Penitente Canyon, please remember to:

STAY ON THE TRAIL. Improper bike riding techniques can harm trails and diminish trail experiences for others. Stay on existing trails; don't create new ones or cut switchbacks. Respect all route closures and "No Trespassing" signs. Limit your riding to durable surfaces (trails, dirt roads, pavement and campgrounds).

CONTROL YOUR BICYCLE. Inattention for even a moment could put you and others at risk. Obey speed regulations and recommendations, and ride within your limits.

SHARE THE TRAIL. Let your fellow trail users know you are coming—a friendly greeting is one method. Anticipate other trail users as you ride around corners. Bicyclists should yield to all other trail users, unless the trail is clearly signed for bike-only

Plan Ahead and Be Prepared

Check with the BLM's San Luis Valley Field Office or area bike shops before riding at Penitente Canyon. Make sure you bring all necessary equipment and remember that safety is your responsibility. All recreational activity is at your own risk.

What Every Rider Should Bring

- Food
- Adequate clothing for the
- Water
- weather & season
- Helmet
- Spare tube and patches
- Pump
- Tools

Directions

miles, you will pass the La Garita Trading Post. Go another 0.5 miles to a Y intersection; take the left fork (County Road 38A). The entrance to the recreation area is another 0.5 miles, on your right.

For more information, please contact:

BLM San Luis Valley Field Office 46525 Highway 114 Saguache, CO 81149 719-655-2547

> Monday - Friday, 8am - 4:30pm Closed weekends and holidays

There is no fee for mountain biking in the area. Please consider leaving a donation in the tube located at the Penitente Canyon trailhead kiosk. All donations are used to maintain and enhance recreation within Penitente Canyon.

BLM/CO/GI-11/010

Photos by Kevin Krill - Crested Butte Photography

